

\*\*\*\*\* T O P S E C R E T \*\*\*\*\*S C O P Y

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WTE016  
DE WTE30 #0016 0150755  
O 150754Z

TO THE WHITE HOUSE  
FM USLO PEKING

T O P S E C R E T /SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

25X1

PEKING 55

JANUARY 15, 1974

TO: GENERAL SCOWCROFT  
FROM: DAVID BRUCE  
SUBJECT: NICK PLATT

1. PLATT AND FAMILY HAVE FIRM RESERVATIONS TO LEAVE HERE FOR PARIS DEPARTING PEKING JANUARY 19. WE HAD ADVISED CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON JANUARY 3 THAT HE WOULD BE GOING WITHIN APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS.

2. HE HAS BECAUSE OF COMMUNICATION FROM YOU MADE NO ANSWER TO STATE DEPARTMENT SUGGESTION TO EXPRESS A PREFERENCE BETWEEN FOUR PROPOSED ASSIGNMENTS.

3. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES WE DO NOT KNOW IN WHAT TERMS TO ASK TRAVEL ORDERS FROM STATE. FOR EXAMPLE IF THE NSC POSITION WERE NOT FEASIBLE AND HE DECIDED TO TAKE THE ASSIGNMENT TO JAPAN IT WOULD BE MORE PRACTICABLE FOR HIM TO GO DIRECTLY FROM HERE TO JAPAN VIA HONG KONG.

4. I DISLIKE PRESSING YOU ABOUT ABOVE FOR YOU HAVE ALREADY BEEN MORE THAN CONSIDERATE AND HELPFUL, BUT BOTH FOR PLATT'S SAKE AND BECAUSE OF STATEMENT MADE TO PRC ABOUT THE TWO WEEK PERIOD THE SITUATION COULD BE RATHER EMBARRASSING.

5. HAVE YOU ANY SUGGESTIONS.

5. WARM REGARDS.

200

State Dept. review completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

\*\*\*\*\* W H S R C O M M E N T \*\*\*\*\*

SCOWCROFT, MCFARLANE, BURKE

RECALLED  
PSN:034908 PAGE 01 OF 01 TOR:015/08:08Z DTG:150754Z JAN 74

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